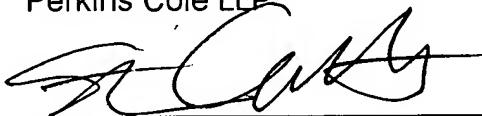


REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of this preliminary amendment. If the Examiner has any questions or matters that can be expediently handled by telephone, he or she is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (206) 359-6351.

Respectfully submitted,

Perkins Coie LLP



Stephen E. Arnett
Registration No. 47,392

Date: February 17, 2004

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 25096
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 1247
Seattle, Washington 98111-1247
(206) 359-8000